I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on January 10, 2005

Jeannie Camara

(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

PATENT APPLICATION Attorney Docket No. SUN-4431-ARG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE	PATENT APPLICATION OF)
) Examiner: Salad, Abdullahi Elmi
Skef F	. Iterum et al.)
) Group Art Unit: 2157
Serial No. 09/662,553)
)
Filing	Date: September 15, 2000)
)
Title:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REACH-)
	ING AGREEMENT BETWEEN NODES IN)
	DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM)

<u>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER</u>

Mail Stop: <u>AF</u>
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the above-referenced U. S. patent application, transmitted herewith are the following papers:

- [x] Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 to official action mailed <u>December 27, 2004.</u>
 [] A petition for extension of time is also enclosed with a fee of \$55.00 for a one-
- month extension for a small entity.

 [] Terminal disclaimer under 37 C.F. R. § 1.321(c), including
 - [] check for \$110.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d), and
 - [] 2 certificates under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b).
- [] Information disclosure statement, form 1449 and ___ references.
- [x] No additional claims fees are required.

[] An additional fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS								
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L FEE			
Total Claims		MINUS = 20	0	x \$18 =				
Independent Claims		MINUS = 3	0	x \$78 =				
If Amendment adds mult								
If small entity status is cl	·							
TOTAL ADDITIONAL	\$0.00							

[]	A check in the amount of \$	_ is enclosed.
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- [] Charge \$___ to Deposit Account No. ____ (Docket No. ____).
- Please deduct any <u>underpayments</u>, credit any <u>overpayments</u>, and charge all required <u>extension of time fees</u> to Deposit Account Number 50-1003. (Docket No. SUN-P4431).

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Tel: (530) 759-1663 FAX: (530) 759-1665

Respectfully submitted,

By

Edward J. Grundler Registration No. 47,615

Date: January 10, 2005



(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

(Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

Application Number: 09/662,553

Applicant : Skef F. Iterum et al. Filed : September 15, 2000

TC/A.U. : 2157

Examiner : Salad, Abdullahi Elmi

Docket Number : SUN-P4431-ARG

Customer No. : 22,835

M/S: Box AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Confirmation Number: 2928

Sir

In response to the office action of **December 27, 2004**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.